RCC Bridge on Torsa River

1837. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that re-alignment of NH-31 from Falakata to Pundibari in Cooch Behar, West Bengal remains incomplete because of non-completion of a major RCC bridge on Torsa river;

(b) whether Government of West Bengal has forwarded a revised estimate seeking timely completion of the project;

(c) the steps that are being taken by Government to expedite the project; and

(d) the progress that has been made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Action has been initiated for seeking approval of the competent authority for the 2nd revised cost estimate for the project. Balance work can be taken up after sanction of 2nd revised cost estimate.

ISRO Agreement with Germany

1838. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ISRO would launch a 350 Kg. Italian scientific satellite "AGILE" as a long foreign satellite on its PSLV rocket this year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the ISRO has made an agreement with a German Company in this regard; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Antrix Corporation which is the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)/Department of Space has